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CROATIAN BREEDERS SEEK TO IMPROVE CATTLE;
YUGOSLAVS ISSUE NEW PRICE ORDERS;
BULGARIA PERMITS FREE SALE OF CEREALS

CROATIAN LIVESTOCK BREEDERS TO HOLD FAIRS -- Zagreb, Borba, 1 Aug 51

Zagreb, 31 July -- The first so-called livestock breeding associations were established in Croatia in 1907. Although their work suffered during the occupation, some individuals kept the necessary livestock records. Farmers have always belonged to such associations and have shown their stock at fairs and exhibits, although this activity has been neglected for the past few years. In August 1951, livestock fairs will be held in 15 large livestock centers.

Livestock associations have been primarily concerned with raising cattle. The function of livestock associations is to procure, raise, and breed blooded stock, and maintain records of development and characteristics. Every calf is given a name and number, is registered, and its development is closely followed and supervised throughout its life.

The number of livestock associations has decreased from 98 in 1939, but in 1951 more attention is being given to their organization. Croatia today has 62 associations with 2,504 members and 5,200 head of cattle, and 11 livestock stations with 425 head of cattle. Bjelovar Oblast has the largest number of associations. Zagreb Oblast is second, and Osijek Oblast is lagging. All the associations are members of the Federation of Livestock Associations in Zagreb, which has its own agricultural experts, supervisory assistants, and other personnel.

These experts appraise and evaluate the stock annually, check the milk yield monthly, and determine which stock should be bred. In 1946, 2,376 cows yielded an average of 2,500 liters of milk, which is higher than the average in Yugoslavia. The livestock is in good health. Since 1946, only 3 percent of the cattle of these associations have shown signs of tuberculosis, while 20 to 30 percent of the cattle are tubercular on some state farms. From this first-quality stock a considerable number of breeding cattle have been raised to improve quality of livestock in Croatia.

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Because of the progress made in livestock raising, especially cattle, the Council for Agriculture and Forestry and the Federation of Livestock Associations have organized a number of fairs in the large livestock producing areas. In the spring of 1951, fairs were held in 23 places, where many members of the associations showed their stock. Bids were quite high.

More than 300 bulls were shown at the fairs, but only 83 bulls were sold. The failure to sell these bulls is strange since about 2,500 bulls are needed in Croatia, where the number of calves is decreasing and so-called economic sterility is appearing in the cattle. Many farmers believe it does not pay to maintain breeding bulls; even farm work cooperatives do not want to maintain breeding stations, claiming they are unprofitable. Even the srez people's councils have not shown any understanding of the problem. At the spring livestock fairs the srez people's council in Krapina was the only one to extend partial monetary help for the purchase of five bulls for the srez.

Of the 15 livestock fairs to be held in August, the one in Peteranec will be on 6 August and the one in Virje on 13 August. More interest should be shown in these fairs so that breeding stock does not return unsold.

ISSUE NEW ORDER ON PRICES -- Zagreb, Vjesnik, 6 Jul 51

Belgrade, 5 July -- The chairman of the Council for Commerce of Yugoslavia, in agreement with the federal Minister of Finance, recently issued a new order on prices at which state enterprises will sell agricultural products intended for consumer consumption on the free market.

In the past, such prices were set by state enterprises. In theory, state economic enterprises and state commercial enterprises sold agricultural products intended for consumer consumption at prices lower than prices at which the same type and quality of product was sold at consumer center markets set up for individual producers.

The new order provides that important agricultural products, such as milk and dairy products, eggs, spinach, peas, gourds, green beans, onions, garlic, tomatoes, peppers, potatoes, cabbage, beans, watermelons, cantaloupes, plums, apples, and grapes will be sold at prices a certain percent lower than prices of individual producers.

The offices for price control authorized for individual cities and consumer centers will regulate the above-mentioned products, the time, the cities, the consumer centers, and the percent of reduction at which they will be sold by state enterprises.

State enterprises will set selling prices for other agricultural products, according to market conditions, with the provision that they will be required to consult their respective price control offices.

State enterprises will sell in the free market the following products, which are exempted from the new order: sugar, lard, and domestic wines and whiskey. These will be sold at prices determined by the Office for Price Control of the Federal Council for Commerce.

Fresh and smoked meat will be sold at prices determined by the Office for Price Control of the republic Council for Commerce.

The price control office of the federal Council for Commerce will issue detailed instructions for carrying out the new order as necessary.

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State agencies, especially trade inspection and price control offices, are required to immediately report directors and responsible officials of state enterprises who do not adhere to the regulations of this order.

MACEDONIA HAS 981 FARM WORK COOPERATIVES -- Ljubljana, Slovenski Porocevalec, 18 Jul 51

On 30 June, Macedonia had 981 farm work cooperatives with a total of 76,940 households, including 60 percent of all farm families and 304,723 hectares of arable land, or 62 percent of the total arable land in Macedonia. In 1950, 16,799 households joined cooperatives.

13,126 HUNTERS IN THE VOJVODINA -- Novi Sad, Slobodna Vojvodina, 22 May 51

The Vojvodina has 13,126 hunters organized into 350 societies. They have 8,999 guns and hunt over 2,000,000 jutars of hunting territory. In 1950, they caught 37,517 rabbits, which provided 150,000 kilograms of meat and 28,682 hides.

PERMITS FREE SALE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS -- Sofia, Zemedelsko Zname, 5 Sep 51

On 31 August 1951, the Ministerial Council received a report on the fulfillment of crop deliveries from the Minister of Supply and Food Industry.

Because the 1951 plan for the deliveries of wheat, rye, barley, spelt, oats, and vetch was fulfilled in the Vratsa, Sofia, Burgas, and Blagoevgrad okrugs, the Ministerial Council is now permitting the free sale of the above crops in these okrugs.

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